

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 4351-01
Bill No.: HB 1752
Subject: Ambulances and Ambulance Districts; Emergencies; Health Care; Health Dept.
Type: Original
Date: March 4, 2002

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 4 pages.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Office of Administration - Administrative Hearing Commission** assume this legislation will not significantly alter its caseload. However, if other similar bills also pass, there will be fiscal impact. If there are more cases, or more complex cases, there could be a fiscal impact.

Officials from the **Department of Health and Senior Services (DOH)** stated this legislation would not be expected to significantly impact the operations of the DOH. If the proposal were to substantially impact the DOH programs, then the DOH would request funding through the legislative process.

The DOH officials did state the proposed legislation would result in an increase in revenues from licensing of stretcher vans, but the increase would be negligible because there are very few stretcher van services operating in Missouri.

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** state this bill requires stretcher van services to be licensed by the Department of Health and Senior Services. The Department of Health and Senior Services may promulgate rules to implement this bill. Based on experience with other divisions, the rules, regulations and forms issued by the Department of Health and Senior Services could require as many as 14 pages in the *Code of State Regulations*. For any given rule, roughly one-half again as many pages are published in the *Missouri Register* as are published in the Code because cost statements, fiscal notes and notices are not published in the Code. The estimated cost of a page in the *Missouri Register* is \$23.00. The estimated cost of a page in the *Code of State Regulations* is \$27.00. The actual costs could be more or less than the numbers given. The fiscal impact of this legislation in future years is unknown and depends upon the frequency and length of rules filed, amended, rescinded and withdrawn. The SOS estimates the cost of this legislation to be \$861 [(14 pp x \$27) + (21 pp x \$23)].

Oversight assumes the SOS could absorb the costs of printing and distributing regulations related to this proposal. If multiple bills pass which require the printing and distribution of regulations at substantial costs, the SOS could request funding through the appropriation process. Any decisions to raise fees to defray costs would likely be made in subsequent fiscal years.

Officials from the **Taney County Ambulance District** assume the proposed legislation will not fiscally impact their organization.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Officials from the **St. Genevieve County Memorial Hospital, Newton County Ambulance District, St. Charles County Ambulance District, Vallee Ambulance District, Mid-MO Ambulance District, and Stoddard County Ambulance District** did not respond to our request for a statement of fiscal impact.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2003 (10 Mo.)	FY 2004	FY 2005
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<u>ISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2003 (10 Mo.)	FY 2004	FY 2005
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

The proposed legislation could result in a negative fiscal impact to small business engaged in the stretcher van business. The fiscal impact is unknown.

DESCRIPTION

This bill establishes requirements for stretcher van operators. The bill: (1) Requires any person to be licensed by the Department of Health and Senior Services if the person advertises, engages, or proposes to engage in the transport of persons by stretcher vans upon the streets, alleys, public ways, or places in Missouri. The department can issue such licenses for a period of 5 years; (2) Requires the department to establish the application forms for stretcher van service licenses; (3) Prohibits regulations or ordinances of political subdivisions from suspending the legal operation of stretcher van services operating prior to January 1, 2002. Political subdivisions which did not regulate stretcher vans effective January 1, 2002, are prohibited from enacting ordinances or rules which prevent the establishment or operation of stretcher van services; (4) Requires that the department be notified within 30 days of a change in ownership of a stretcher van service. The department is required to conduct an inspection of the stretcher van service for compliance with provisions of the bill; (5) Allows the department to refuse or deny a renewal of a license for non-compliance with the bill or lawful regulations established by the department to implement provisions of the bill; (6) Allows the department to cause a complaint to be filed with the Administrative Hearing Commission against any licensee for non-compliance with the bill or regulations created by the department. The conditions of non-compliance with established regulations are contained in the bill. The department can simultaneously suspend any required license if it is determined that there is an imminent threat to the public; (7) Specifies the conditions and ASSUMPTION (continued)


procedures which allow the department to censure, suspend, or place a person on probation for violating the provisions of the bill or established regulations; (8) Allows the department to notify the proper licensing authority of other states of a person whose license was suspended or revoked in Missouri; (9) Prohibits any person, organization, association, or corporation from being subject to civil damages for acting in good faith when disclosing information to the department as stated; (10) Classifies the type of transport and passengers who are eligible for transport by stretcher van operators; (11) Establishes operating requirements for stretcher vans and requires the certification of two-person crews in various areas as stated in the bill; (12) Requires the department to establish rules pertaining to stretcher van insurance requirements, vehicle and stretcher specifications, vehicle communications, passenger safety, and records and reports; and (13) Requires the department to conduct inspections of stretcher van services to ensure compliance with the bill.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of Administration - Administrative Hearing Commission
Department of Health and Senior Services
Office of the Secretary of State
Taney County Ambulance District

NOT RESPONDING: St. Genevieve County Memorial Hospital, Newton County Ambulance District, St. Charles County Ambulance District, Vallee Ambulance District, Mid-MO Ambulance District, and Stoddard County Ambulance District.



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Acting Director
March 4, 2002